

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 EB-11 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-20

STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 FEA-02

OMB-01 SAM-01 NEA-10 DRC-01 /206 W

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R 281558Z FEB 74

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8565

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRD, EEC, DA.

SUBJ: EC MEDITERRANEAN POLICY, AD HOC ARRANGEMENTS

REF: (A) STATE 15683, (B) BRUSSELS 772

BEGIN SUMMARY. DENMARK REMAINS UNENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT EC MEDITERRANEAN POLICY IN WHICH IT HAS NO BASIC ECONOMIC INTEREST, EXCEPT TO MAINTAIN FREEST POSSIBLE IMPORT OF COMMODITIES (E.G., CITRUS) NOT PRODUCED IN DENMARK. WHEREVER POSSIBLE, DANES PREFER MAINTAINING STATUS QUO PENDING FINALIZATION OF EC ARRANGMENTS WITH MED COUNTRIES. FOR SPAIN AND ISRAEL, THEY HAVE MADE AD HOC STANDSTILL ARRANGMENTS WITHOUT NOTIFYING GATT SINCE THEY BELIEVE TRANSITION PERIOD WILL BE BRIEF. FOR TOERH MED COUNTRIES,
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THEY FOLLOW EC PROCEDURES. END SUMMARY.

1. PURSUANT TO INSTRUCTIONS REF A, WE CONSULTED WITH CUSTOMS OFFICIALS AND FONOFF ON DANISH TRADE ARRANGEMENTS WITH MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES SINCE JANUARY 1, 1974. FONOFF (KOCH) SAID DENMARK REMAINS COMMITTED TO LIBERAL GSP FOR LDCS AND OPPOSED TO REVERSE PREFERENCES. DURING PRESENT, RATHER CONFUSING, TRANSITIONAL PERIOD, HE SAID, DANES ARE TRYING TO BE AS PRAGMATIC AS POSSIBLE WITH PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVE BEING THAT OF KEEPING' CUSTOMS DUTY CHANGES TO A MINIMUM. HE NOTED THAT BOTH BUSINESS AND CUSTOMS OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN SERIOUSLY CONCERNED OVER COMPLEX AND FREQUENT CHANGES IN DUTIES.

2. SPECIFIC INFORMATION OBTAINED CORRESPONDS IN MAJOR PART WITH THAT REPORTED BY USEC (REF B) WITH SOME MODIFICATIONS OR ADDITIONS. STATUS AS REPORTED BY FONOFF AND CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES IS AS FOLLOWS:

A. AD HOC ARRANGMENTS: ONLY AD HOC MEASURES TAKEN BY DENMARK CONCERN TRADE WITH ISRAEL AND SPAIN. FOR PRINCIPAL IMPORT ITEMS (INCLUDING CITRUS), DENMARK IS MAINTAINING UNILATERAL STANDSTILL FOR INTERIM PERIOD. ON OTHER IMPORTS FROM THESE COUNTRIES, OF LESSOR IMPORTANCE, THEY HAVE MOVED TO 40 PERCENT ADJUSTMENT TO CXT, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER RESULTING TARIFF IS HIGHER OR LOWER THAN PREVIOUSLY. SINCE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD IS EXPECTED TO BE SHORT, GATT HAS NOT BEEN NOTIFIED.

B. TURKEY, EGYPT, CYPRUS AND TUNISIA: TRANSITIONAL PROTOCOL IS IN FORCE AND BEING APPLIED. DANES ALSO PROVIDE GSP TREATMENT.

C. MOROCCO: TRANSITIONAL PROTOCOL IS IN FORCE EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 1, 1974. GSP TREATMENT ALSO PROVIDED.
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D. LEBANON: TRADE AGREEMENT EXPECTED TO BE IN FORCE ABOUT MARCH 1, 1974. GSP TREATMENT APPLIED.

E. ALGERIA: NO PREFERENCES EXCEPTING GSP.

F. MALTA: THIRD COUNTRY TREATMENT (ALIGNED

CXT), PENDING EC AGREEMENT.

G. GREECE: THIRD COUNTRY TREATMENT (ALIGNED CXT).

H. IN GENERAL, ALL IMPORTS FROM ABOVE COUNTRIES FOR WHICH AD HOC ARRANGMENTS, ASSOCIATION OR TRADE AGREEMENTS AND GSP DO NOT APPLY ARE ASSESSED AT ALIGNED CXT.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, CUSTOMS DUTIES, IMPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974COPENH00567
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: COPENHAGEN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974023/aaaaacuk.tel
Line Count: 125
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) STATE 15683, (B) BRUSSELS 772
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 APR 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <04 JUN 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EC MEDITERRANEAN POLICY, AD HOC ARRANGEMENTS
TAGS: ETRD, DA, XG, XF, XI, EEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005